

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.

States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

INDIANA COUNTY AGENTS HELP FARMERS FIGHT LOOSE SMUT EFFECTIVELY.

County agents in Indiana, with the help of F. J. Pipal of the agricultural extension department of Purdue University, have for some years successfully demonstrated the effectiveness of the hot water treatment in controlling loose smut of wheat. The county agents in several counties in the State have succeeded in securing equipment that will permit of the effective and rapid treatment of large quantities of seed wheat by the hot water method.

In some counties, central treating plants are operated under the direction of county agents where farmers may bring a limited amount of seed and have it treated for loose smut. This year there are eighteen such central treating plants in the State as compared to nine in 1919 and one in 1918. According to the Indiana authorities more wheat has been treated with hot water in Indiana than in all other States combined.

In Daviess County the farmers have made arrangements to treat their wheat in a canning factory, while in Bartholomew County the effort of the farmers is now directed towards equipping a plant to be used by all farmers. In Gibson County four seed wheat treating plants have been installed at four different points in the county. Each one of these plants is in charge of a local man to supervise the work. A hot water treatment plant of the vat and drum type has been equipped for use in Hancock County. It is interesting to note in the use of this plant each farmer does the pre-soaking work at home, then brings this soaked wheat for treatment with hot water to the plant. Each farmer is asked to bring a large canvas with him so the treated wheat can be spread outside to be cooled and dried. Posey County has a portable plant which is moved from township to township. Although this work got a late start there owing to delay in receipt of part of the equipment, farmers are earnestly cooperating in the work and over 600 bushels have been treated so far.

In Shelby County this project has been given special emphasis for three years. In that time it has shown itself to be of such value that the majority of farmers now use the hot water treatment and over 20,000 bushels of seed wheat that have been treated by the hot water treatment will be planted in Shelby County this year.

- 2 -

County agents elsewhere who are interested in this project may direct inquiries about the details of the treatment and equipment to Mr. T. A. Coleman, County Agent Leader, Agricultural College, LaFayette, Indiana.

County Agent Section
11-9-20
H

W.B.J.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.

States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

PRINTED ANNUAL REPORTS OF COUNTY AGENT WORK.

County agents in several Northern and Western States have for some years published a report of the year's work in printed form. Many of these printed reports are most attractive in appearance and present such interesting and valuable accounts of progress and results that they make an appeal to all interested in county extension work. In Pennsylvania this feature has been especially well developed, a majority of the county agents in that State now publishing printed annual reports. These are especially well received by those supporting county agent work in the counties.

It would seem that such printed reports might indeed serve a most useful purpose in presenting from year to year accurate and convincing accounts of the year's extension work. The typewriter narrative report is valued by college and department officials and perhaps by county officials and executive committeemen. But few others see this record of the work. Therefore for local distribution and publicity purposes a printed report that is given a wide circulation in the county proves to be a most helpful medium in acquainting rural people with the aims, scope, and results of county agent work.

Printed reports need not be elaborate nor unnecessarily expensive, if well planned and carefully written. The report which each agent prepares for the college and for this office might well serve as a basis and the same general outline might be followed with good effect. A history of the progress of organized extension work and the personnel at work might well preface such a report and be followed by detailed descriptions of the effort put forth and the results recorded under each project of the program of work. Notes on tours, excursions, special campaigns should be included as well as accounts of any special miscellaneous work that has been worthwhile. A summary of the year's problems and progress and a statement of the needs of the work and the general outlook too would be appreciated.

A few well chosen photographs of demonstrations or other important phases of the work illustrative of specific, planned effort should be given space, together with maps and charts which picture the extent and scope of the year's work, and such statistical tables as might be of value in presenting a story of accomplishment. Proper acknowledgement should also be made of the help

and cooperation of the people locally, and the efforts of demonstrators, cooperators, and committeemen should be given suitable recognition, thereby lending greater value to such a report locally. Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the value of these points and the worth of such a report as a whole in keeping the people locally in touch with the work and in giving them a concrete accounting of what has been done. All this is aptly summed up in the prefix to the annual report of a county agent in Wisconsin, which follows:

*This is a printed report of my work as county agricultural agent in Waukesha county, but at the same time it is a personal letter from me to you. I hope that you will read it clear through and like what you find in it. And I hope you will keep it around the house as a future reference. I submit it to you with a feeling of satisfaction that it has been a year well spent for Waukesha county people. The work that has been accomplished has been made possible by your cooperation and encouragement.
(* 1919 Report J. E. Stallard, County Agent, Waukesha County, Wisconsin.)

The cost of publishing such a report might properly be met from county funds and thus avoid the troubles and embarrassments of seeking paid advertising in order to pay for publication. After all, the purpose of the report is to accurately present what has been done locally in extension work and to give wider publicity to extension principles, methods, and aims, and proper recognition of the public spirit and effort of individuals and communities that are upholding county extension work.

County Agent Section

11-18-20

H

Wesb

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.

States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good

During the past two years a considerable amount of emphasis has been placed on community programs and community goals. This has caused one County Agent Leader to raise the question whether he should not consider himself as seriously as he is asking the county agents and farmers to consider themselves.

County Agent Leader Decring in Maine in developing a "project" covering his work for 1921 establishes for himself the following goals:

1. To chart the work planned in each county by projects and by communities and to use this analysis as a means of checking progress made by agents during the year in forwarding their programs of work.
2. Install the Wilson-Fuller "System of Field and Office Records" in eleven counties of the State.
3. Complete the organization of Oxford County Farm Bureau which will complete the organization of the State for extension work.
4. Develop a State program of work with definite goals based upon county programs.
5. Assist in a state-wide membership campaign in the county extension organizations and secure eight thousand members for 1921.
6. Extend the community analysis method of determining local programs to the remaining three counties not now using the plan.
7. Improve the Executive Committee meetings in seven counties.
8. Secure better annual reports from all counties.

In connection with this last, Director Merrill is designating that agents set aside the last two weeks in November for the preparation of their annual reports.

Holding one's self to personal accountability as indicated in the above project should be as productive of good results in leadership work as it is in county and community work.

County Agent Section
11-23-20 WDL
L

Bureau

119

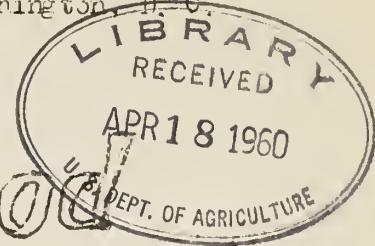
E4892 TL

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. S. Department of Agriculture
and State Agricultural Colleges
Cooperating.

States Relations Service, Office
of Extension Work North and West,
Washington, D. C.

This Looks Good



The following is a quotation from a letter received from Karl Knous, county agent leader for Kansas, under date of November 8, 1920:

"The agents in this State have been urged to schedule their work so that the last ten days of November will be open for making their annual report. Members of this office are staying strictly away from the counties during that period and the extension specialists are in the field as little as possible during this period."

Action similar to this has been taken in the State of Maine where Director Merrill has issued instructions to the county agents to make the annual report the principal work for the last two weeks in November.

This setting aside of a specific time for the agents to devote to making the annual report and freeing them from any outside interference so far as possible should be productive of prompt and satisfactory reports.

County Agent Section
11-24-20
No. 15 - L

10
11
12